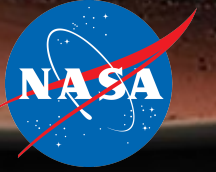


National Aeronautics and Space  
Administration



# HEO Status Report

William H. Gerstenmaier

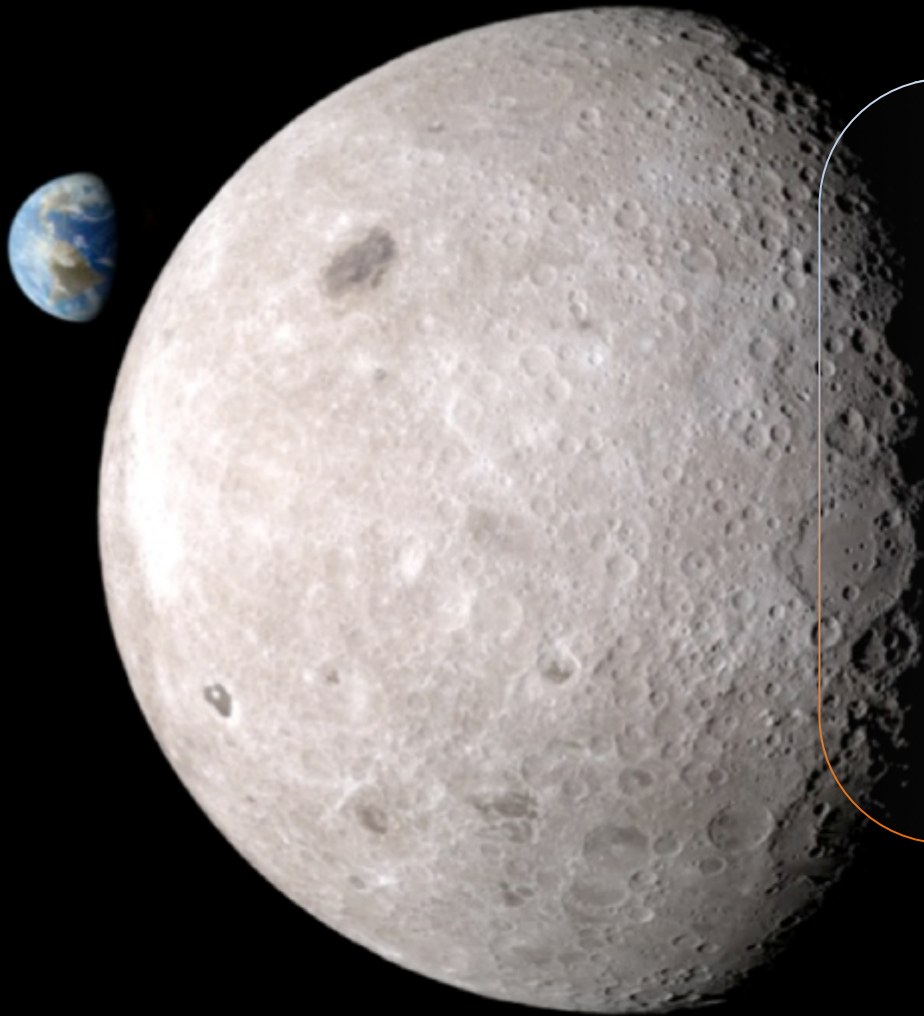
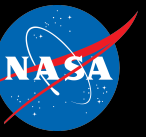
Associate Administrator

Human Exploration & Operations Mission Directorate

December 8, 2017



# HOW ARE WE LEADING HUMAN SPACE EXPLORATION?



- Maximizing utilization of the International Space Station
- Actively promoting LEO commercialization
- Resolving the human health and performance challenges
- Expanding partnerships with commercial industry
- Growing international partnerships
- Building the critical Deep Space Infrastructure
- Enabling the capabilities to explore multiple destinations



# LEADING THE MOVEMENT OF HUMANS INTO DEEP SPACE REQUIRES: DOING, INFLUENCING, CONNECTING AND ORCHESTRATING



- 1 AGENCY
- 2 GOVERNMENT / PEOPLE
- 3 INDUSTRY
- 4 INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP



# STRATEGIC PRINCIPLES FOR SUSTAINABLE EXPLORATION



- **FISCAL REALISM**

Implementable in the near-term with the buying power of current budgets and in the longer term with budgets commensurate with economic growth;

- **SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION**

Exploration enables science and science enables exploration; leveraging scientific expertise for human exploration of the solar system.

- **TECHNOLOGY PULL AND PUSH**

Application of high Technology Readiness Level (TRL) technologies for near term missions, while focusing sustained investments on technologies and capabilities to address the challenges of future missions;

- **GRADUAL BUILD UP OF CAPABILITY**

Near-term mission opportunities with a defined cadence of compelling and integrated human and robotic missions, providing for an incremental buildup of capabilities for more complex missions over time;

- **ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**

Opportunities for U.S. commercial business to further enhance their experience and business base;

- **ARCHITECTURE OPENNESS AND RESILIENCE**

Resilient architecture featuring multi-use, evolvable space infrastructure, minimizing unique developments, with each mission leaving something behind to support subsequent missions;

- **GLOBAL COLLABORATION AND LEADERSHIP**

Substantial new international and commercial partnerships, leveraging current International Space Station partnerships and building new cooperative ventures for exploration; and

- **CONTINUITY OF HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT**

Uninterrupted expansion of human presence into the solar system by establishing a regular cadence of crewed missions to cis-lunar space during ISS lifetime.



# BENEFITS OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP



In addition to financial investments, NASA helps its commercial partners:

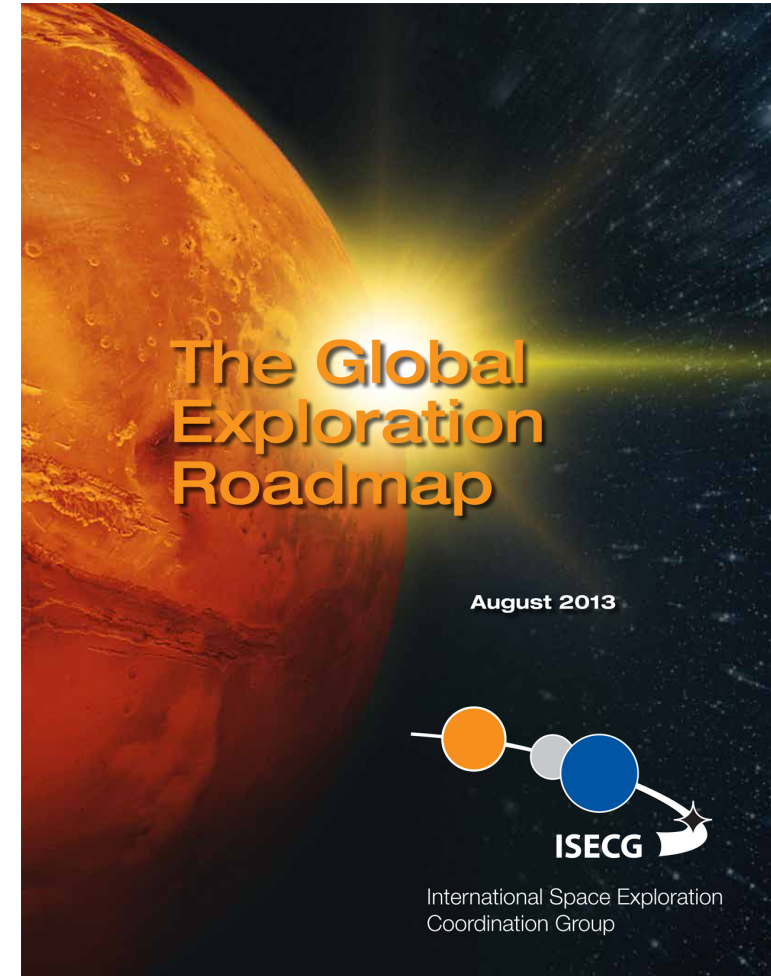
- By sharing the knowledge NASA has matured through over 50 years of space flight allowing them to access unique expertise, goods, and services
- By making available valuable infrastructure and assets; thus providing emerging space companies with capabilities they could otherwise not afford
- By providing substantial early demand as an anchor customer

In return, an emerging space industry sparked by the initiative of private entrepreneurs:

- Are dedicated to creating new markets for goods and services that will be integral to helping NASA and the nation continue expand the space economy and sustain deep space exploration.
- Are lowering the cost of launching cargo into space and transforming economic decision-making, therefore markets for services that once were cost-prohibitive are becoming increasingly realistic.
- Are regularly developing, testing, and implementing cutting-edge research, which yields potentially transformative solutions that can accelerate timelines, slash costs, or multiply science return.

# INTERNATIONAL SPACE EXPLORATION COORDINATION GROUP

## GLOBAL EXPLORATION ROADMAP

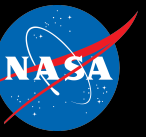


**Global Exploration Roadmap –  
Version Three scheduled for  
release January 2018**



- Establishing interoperability standards like international docking standards is critical to leading and orchestrating
- ISS partners, Space Communications, Next Step habitation and power and propulsion element BAA providers are all contributing to draft interoperability standards in several critical areas
  - International Avionics Data Interface Standard
  - International Communications System Standard
  - International Environmental Control Life Support Interoperability Standard
  - International Power System Standard
  - International Thermal System Interfaces Standard
  - International Rendezvous Standard
  - International External Robotic Interfaces Standard
- Plan is for even wider review at International Space Exploration Forum in March 2018
  - Government and state department level meeting
  - Sixty governments attend

# FIRST STEP IN DEEP SPACE EXPLORATION





# DEEP SPACE HABITATION SYSTEMS



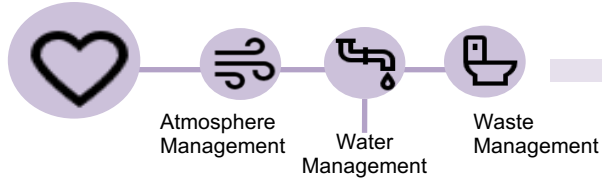
## Habitation Systems Elements

**T O D A Y**  
Space Station

**F U T U R E**  
Deep Space

### LIFE SUPPORT

Excursions from Earth are possible with artificially produced breathing air, drinking water and other conditions for survival.

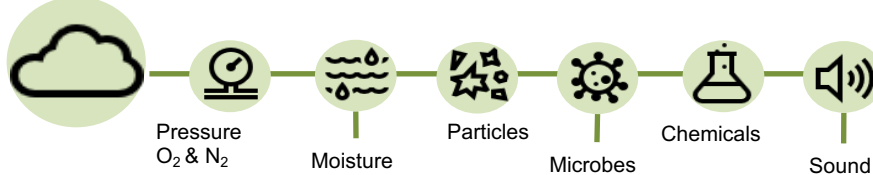


- 42% O<sub>2</sub> Recovery from CO<sub>2</sub>
- 90% H<sub>2</sub>O Recovery
- < 6 mo mean time before failure (for some components)

- 75%+ O<sub>2</sub> Recovery from CO<sub>2</sub>
- 98%+ H<sub>2</sub>O Recovery
- >30 mo mean time before failure

### ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

NASA living spaces are designed with controls and integrity that ensure the comfort and safety of inhabitants.

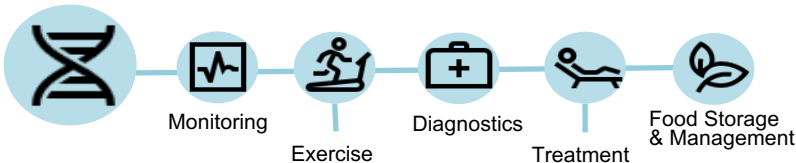


- Limited, crew-intensive on-board capability
- Reliance on sample return to Earth for analysis

- On-board analysis capability with no sample return
- Identify and quantify species and organisms in air & water

### CREW HEALTH

Astronauts are provided tools to perform successfully while preserving their well-being and long-term health.

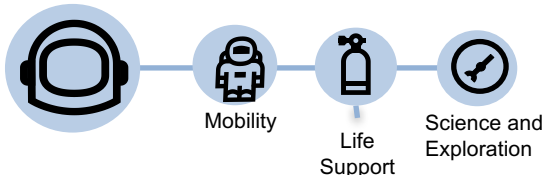


- Bulky fitness equipment
- Limited medical capability
- Frequent food system resupply

- Smaller, efficient equipment
- Onboard medical capability
- Long-duration food system

### EVA: EXTRA-VEHICULAR ACTIVITY

Long-term exploration depends on the ability to physically investigate the unknown for resources and knowledge.



- High upper body mobility for limited sizing range
- Low interval between maintenance, contamination sensitive, and consumables limit EVA time
- Construction and repair focused tools; excessive inventory of unique tools

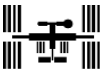
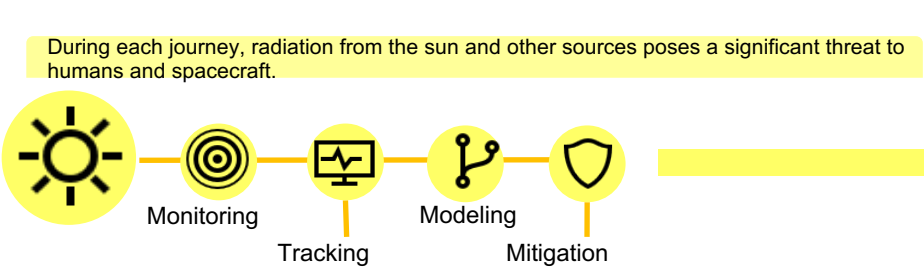
- Full body mobility for expanded sizing range
- Increased time between maintenance cycles, contamination resistant system, 25% increase in EVA time
- Geological sampling and surveying equipment; common generic tool kit

# DEEP SPACE HABITATION SYSTEMS



## Habitation Systems Elements

### RADIATION PROTECTION



### T O D A Y Space Station

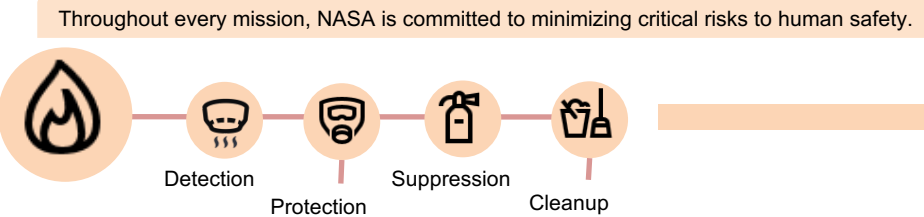
- Node 2 crew quarters (CQ) with polyethylene reduce impacts of proton irradiation.
- Large multi-layer detectors & small pixel detectors – real-time dosimetry, environment monitoring, tracking, model validation & verification
- Bulky gas-based detectors – real-time dosimetry
- Small solid-state crystal detectors – passive dosimetry (analyzed post-mission)



### F U T U R E Deep Space

- Solar particle event storm shelter, optimized position of on-board materials and CQ
- Small distributed pixel detector systems – real-time dosimetry, environment monitoring, and tracking
- Small actively read-out detectors for crew – real-time dosimetry

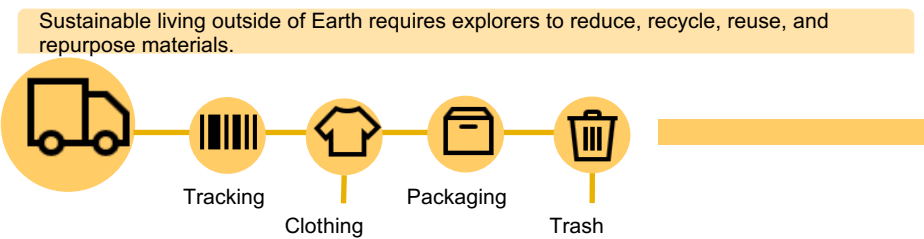
### FIRE SAFETY



- Large CO<sub>2</sub> Suppressant Tanks
- 2-cartridge mask
- Obsolete combustion prod. sensor
- Only depress/repress clean-up

- Water Mist portable fire extinguisher
- Single Cartridge Mask
- Exploration combustion product monitor
- Smoke eater

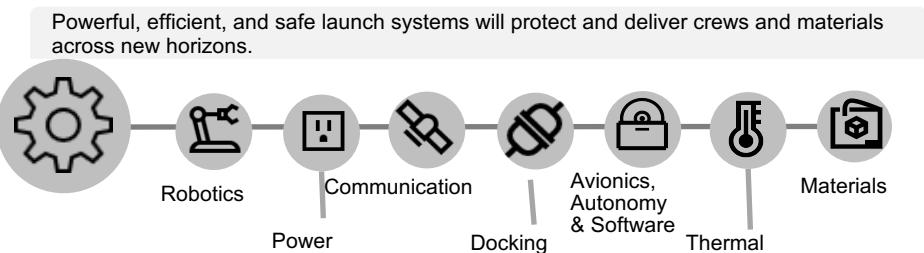
### LOGISTICS



- Manual scans, displaced items
- Disposable cotton clothing
- Packaging disposed
- Bag and discard

- Automatic, autonomous RFID
- Long-wear clothing/laundry
- Bags/foam repurposed w/3D printer
- Resource recovery, then disposal

### CROSS-CUTTING



- Minimal on-board autonomy
- Near-continuous ground-crew communications
- Some common interfaces, modules controlled separately

- Ops independent of Earth & crew
- Up to 40-minute comm delay
- Widespread common interfaces, modules/systems integrated
- Manufacture replacement parts in space



- Future of the National Lab
  - Role of the government in fostering R&D across private industry and non-NASA government agencies
- Re-use of on-orbit ISS elements
  - Many elements will have considerable structural life after 2028
  - Some systems, including the solar arrays, will need to be replaced by the end of the 2020s in order to maintain the current configuration
  - Maintenance levels less than originally anticipated
  - Value of the nation's investment is considerable
- Long-term NASA requirements for LEO research and utilization
  - NASA is currently assessing its LEO long term requirements and utilization needs

Element	Year Launched	+30 years
FGB/Node 1	1998	2028
US Lab	2001	2031
Node 2	2007	2037
Columbus/JEM	2008	2038
Node 3/Cupola	2010	2040
Truss segments	2000-2009	2030-2039

# CONSIDERATIONS



- Transition indicators
  - Completion of exploration-related research and technology development requiring ISS
  - Demand from government and private industry including research and for-profit motivated activities, and whether that demand will support private LEO platforms and associated transportation costs
  - Establishment of cislunar Gateway capabilities and execution of missions beyond LEO
- Affordability in the larger HSF Exploration context
  - Need both low Earth orbit and Deep Space
  - Ideally private sector is largely supporting low Earth Orbit costs
    - Market Driven
    - Revenue positive
- Foreign Policy Considerations
  - US leadership in HSF
  - Other LEO space stations
- Timing of Low Earth Orbit non-government is a big question



- Scope of public-private partnership models -- How to effect transition?
  - There is a large range of private partnership arrangements that could be considered
    - Proper role of the government vs. private industry needs to be explored
    - International Partner agreements
    - Ability for private industry to do business outside of government constraints
    - Scope of government needs for LEO in the long term
- ISS is CRITICAL
  - ISS is an asset for exploration development, commercial LEO, development, International leadership
  - We need to focus on using the asset and not focus solely on transition or see ISS as a liability
  - ISS is keeping the US a leader in spaceflight

# DEEP SPACE EXPLORATION SYSTEMS

## ORION – SLS – GROUND SYSTEMS



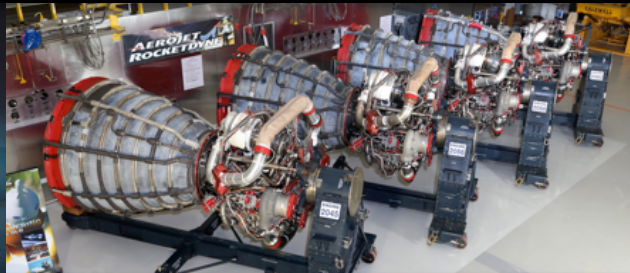
NASA tests ensure astronaut, ground crew safety before Orion launches



Orion processing continues in the Operations and Checkout Building High Bay for EM-1



SLS core stage pathfinder arrives at NASA Michoud



The four RS-25 engines that will power SLS



New Umbilical fitted for Mobile Launcher



Liquid Oxygen tanking operations begin at Launch Pad 39B





# SLS FACILITIES AND FLIGHT HARDWARE FOR EM-1



**ISPE STA  
Test Stand**



**Intertank STA Test  
Stand**



**LO2 STA Test Stand**



**A-1 Core Stage Engine  
Test Stand**



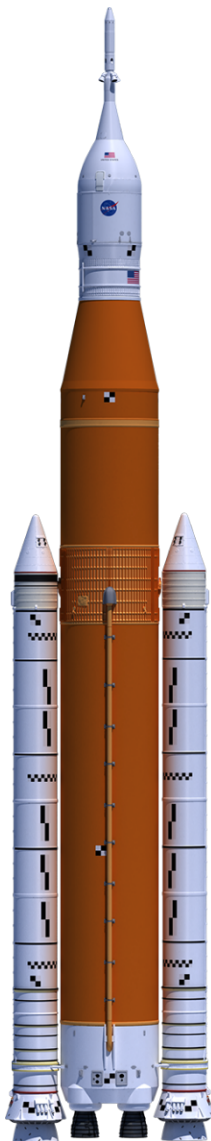
**LH2 STA Test Stand**



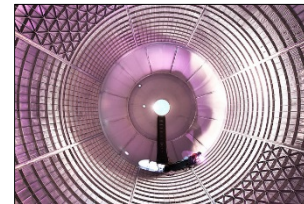
**Engine Section STA  
Test Stand**



**B-2 Core Stage  
Test Stand**



**ICPS**



**Core Stage LOX Tank**



**Core Stage Intertank**



**Core Stage Engines**



**Launch Vehicle  
Stage Adaptor**



**Core Stage  
Hydrogen Tank**



**Orion Stage Adaptor**



**Core Stage Forward  
Skirt**

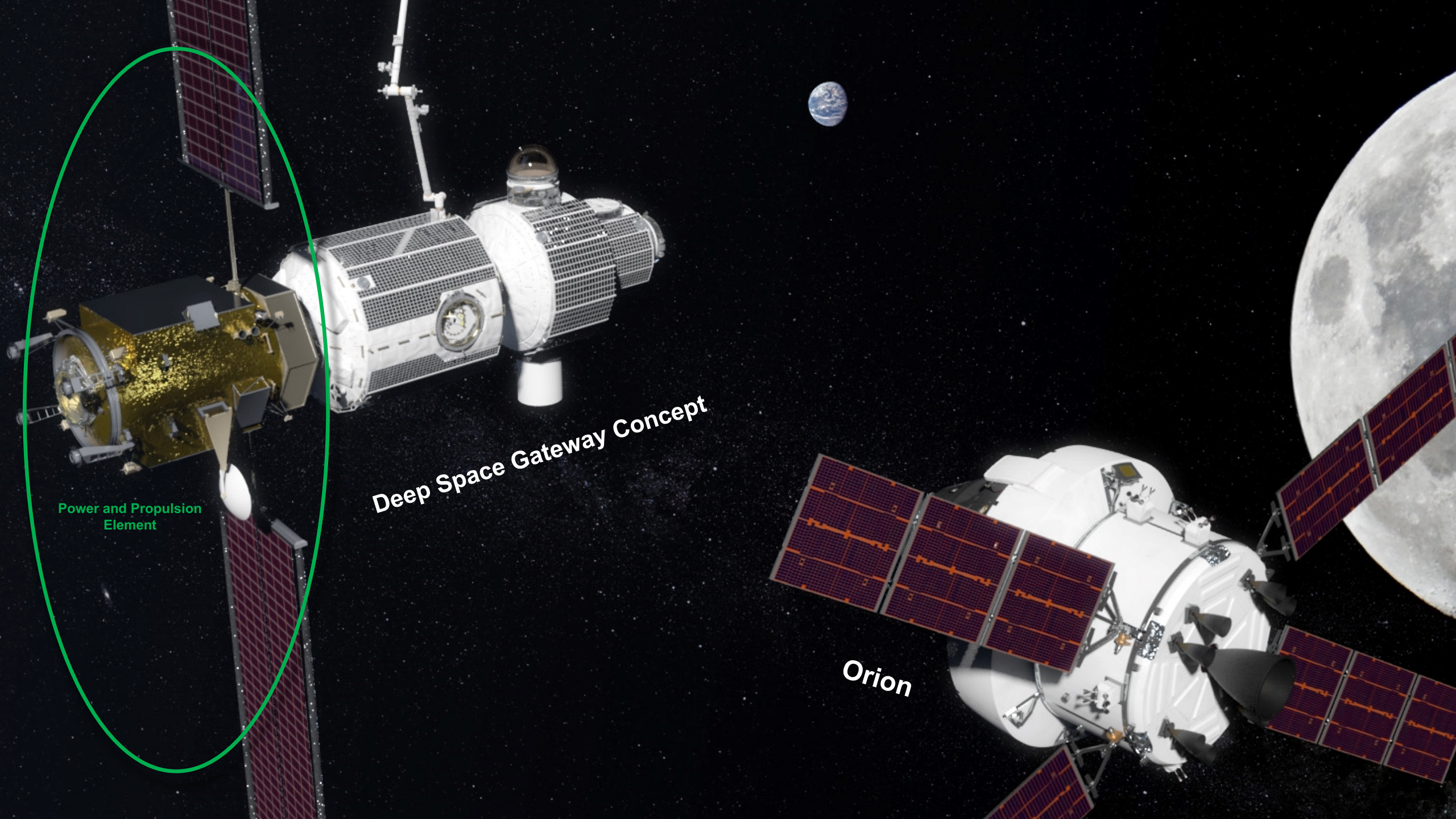


**Booster Avionics**



**Booster Aft Skirt**





Power and Propulsion  
Element

Deep Space Gateway Concept

Orion





With creative leadership we can have a sustained human presence in low Earth orbit supported primarily by the private sector, and used by broad sectors of the economy while we advance human presence into the solar system.



